

BOROUGH OF DARWEN.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE
Year ending December 31st, 1932.

JAMES ROBERTSON, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health and
School Medical Officer.

DARWEN.
PRINTED AT THE 'NEWS' OFFICE.
MCMXXXIII.

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HEALTH OFFICE.

DARWEN,

1933.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

It affords me pleasure in presenting to you my TENTH ANNUAL REPORT, which is also the FIFTY-FIFTH REPORT since the incorporation of the Borough.

I take this opportunity of thanking all the Members of my Staff for their willing co-operation and the Members of the Health Committee for their courtesy and support extended to me.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES ROBERTSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Members of the Health Committee,

1932-1933.

COUNCILLOR W. JEPSON, J.P., MAYOR.

Chairman :

* COUNCILLOR DR. T. J. COSTELLO.

Vice-Chairman :

* COUNCILLOR R. S. HALLIWELL, B.A., LL.B.

ALDERMAN F. C. DUCKWORTH.

„ T. W. A. FORREST, M.B.E.,
J.P., C.C.
„ *W. KNOWLES, J.P.
„ *R. MARSDEN, J.P.
„ G. PICKUP, J.P., C.C.
„ *W. WORTH, J.P.

COUNCILLOR J. T. CLARK.

„ *R. COCKER
„ W. R. DAVIES.
„ A. DUCKWORTH.
„ T. DUXBURY.

COUNCILLOR R. ECCLES.

„ J. GREGORY.
„ *J. HARWOOD.
„ T. E. HOLGATE, J.P.
„ H. D. HOLLAND.
„ W. JEPSON, J.P.
„ W. R. JEPSON.
„ E. LEACH.
„ G. W. STOTT.
„ *G. E. WEBSTER.
„ E. YATES, JNR., LL.B.

* MEMBER OF HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE.

TOWN CLERK CHARLES COUTTS BYERS.

Staff of the Health Department.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	} JAMES ROBERTSON, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER	
MEDICAL OFFICER OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL	
SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR }	C. R. WALSH, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
MEAT INSPECTOR	
SANITARY INSPECTORS .....	... (North Division)—F. LITTLECOTT, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. ... (South Division)—E. P. McGLYNN, C.R.S.I.
VETERINARY OFFICER	J. HOLROYD, F.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.
MATRON, INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL	MISS P. JAY.
HEALTH VISITORS AND	} ... MRS. H. H. SHAWCROSS, CERTIFIED MIDWIFE. CHILD PROTECTION VISITORS ..} ... MISS E. WORTH, CERT. MIDWIFE, A.R.S.I., CERT. H.V. AND S.N.
INSPECTOR OF MIDWIVES	
CLERKS.....	W. HAWORTH, H. HUTCHINSON, T. W. MARSDEN.

REPORT.

—o—

AREA (Acres), 5,959.

POPULATION : Census (1931), 36,012. Estimated (1932), 35,580.

Population in Wards.

Wards.	Census, 1931 (Estimated)	(Estimated) 1932
CENTRAL	5,872	5,800
WEST CENTRAL	3,231	3,192
NORTH-EAST	8,383	8,284
NORTH-WEST	6,462	6,383
SOUTH-EAST	6,371	6,294
SOUTH-WEST	5,693	5,627
 TOTAL	 36,012	 35,580

(See Census particulars on page 6.)

Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931), 10,258.

Number of inhabited houses at end of 1932, according to Rate Book, 10,466.

Number of families or separate occupiers (Census 1931), 10,385.

Rateable Value, £179,890.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £697.

The inhabitants are chiefly of the artisan and labouring classes. The chief occupations include Cotton Weaving, Paper Making, Paper Staining, Paint Manufacturing, Fire Clay and Iron Workers.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1932.

	Total.	Males.	Females.	Birth
				Rate.
LIVE BIRTHS	Legitimate	381 ...	197 ...	184 ...
	Illegitimate	17 ...	13 ...	4 ...
STILL BIRTHS	Total.	Males.	Females.	Rate per 1000 Total Births.
	32 ...	14 ...	18 ...	74
DEATHS	Total.	Males.	Females.	Rate.
.....	530 ...	263 ...	267 ...	14.89

Percentage of total Deaths occurring in Public Institutions, 30.0.

The following Particulars are taken from the 1931 Census Returns.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, Child-birth :—From Sepsis, 4 ; from other Puerperal causes, 2.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births :—Total, 19 (Rate 47) ; Legitimate, 19 (Rate 49) ; Illegitimate, Nil (Rate Nil).

Deaths from Measles (all ages), Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), 3.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), Nil.

Specify any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or required comment :—None.

RATES PER 1,000 OF POPULATION.

Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Death Rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	Death-rate from Cancer.	Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of Deaths under 1 Year to 1000 Births.
				per 1000 Live Births.	per 1000 Total (Live & Still) Births.	
Mean of 5 years,						
1927-1931	12.02...	14.19...	0.38...	1.74...	7.92...	— ... 74
1931	11.33...	15.59...	0.35...	1.83...	7.26...	6.97... 82
1932	11.18...	14.89...	0.36...	2.44...	15.07...	13.95... 47

Increase or Decrease in 1932 on :—

Mean of 5 years,

1927-1931 —0.84... +0.70... -0.02... +0.70... +7.15... — ... -27

Previous year —0.15... -0.70... +0.01... +0.61... +7.81... +6.98... -35

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1932.

Provisional figures. The rates have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1932. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.

	Birth-Rate per 1000 Total Population.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.									Rate per 1,000 Births.
		All Causes.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	
England and Wales.....	15.3	12.0	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.01	0.07	0.06	0.32	0.53	6.6 65
118 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	15.4	11.8	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.01	0.08	0.07	0.28	0.48	8.9 69
126 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931)	15.4	10.8	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.01	0.06	0.03	0.31	0.42	4.5 58
London	14.2	12.3	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.02	0.08	0.07	0.27	0.53	12.6 66
Darwen	11.18	14.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.59	0.67	0.00 47

Marriages.

The number of Marriages solemnized in Darwen during the year ending December 31st, 1932, was as follows—

Church of England	100
Nonconformist Places of Worship	147
Total	247

This means that 494 people were united in the bonds of wedlock, and is at the rate of 13.88 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 12.79 per 1,000 in the previous year.

Year.	Births.		Deaths.		Marriages.	
	Number	Rate.	Number	Rate.	Number	Rate.
1923	602	15.44	528	13.54	648	16.6
1924	636	16.28	582	14.90	602	15.4
1925	546	14.05	549	14.13	548	14.1
1926	540	13.89	433	11.14	506	13.0
1927	462	11.95	580	15.01	550	14.2
1928	460	12.05	492	12.89	538	14.1
1929	489	12.94	555	14.68	518	13.7
1930	438	11.83	474	12.81	462	12.4
1931	413	11.33	568	15.59	466	12.7
1932	398	11.18	530	14.89	494	13.8
Average 10 Years ...	498	13.09	529	13.95	533	14.0



Births.

The number of Children born during the year was : Males 210, Females 133, making a total of 398 ; being 15 less than in the previous twelve months, and at the rate of 0.15 per 1,000 lower than in 1931.

The Birth Rate for the year was 11.18 per 1,000. The highest monthly Birth Rate was 14.50 in May, and it was the lowest in March, August, October and November, the figure for each month being 9.44 per 1,000.

TABLE showing the Estimated Populations, Number of Births, and the Birth-Rates for the Darwen Sanitary District for the last Ten Years.

Year.	Estimated Population at the Middle of Each Year.	Total Births.	Birth-Rate
1923	38,980	602	15.44
1924	39,060	636	16.28
1925	38,850	546	14.05
1926	38,860	540	13.89
1927	38,630	462	11.95
1928	38,150	469	12.05
1929	37,780	489	12.94
1930	37,000	438	11.83
1931	36,420	413	11.33
1932	35,580	398	11.18

Average Birth Rate for the last 10 years, 13.09.

BIRTH RATES IN THE VARIOUS WARDS.

Year.	C.	W.C.	N.E.	N.W.	S.E.	S.W.	Borough.
1923	17.14	16.29	16.32	12.15	15.97	15.09	15.44
1924	16.17	18.83	16.16	13.84	19.24	14.57	16.28
1925	14.84	12.33	17.91	10.90	14.40	11.71	14.05
1926	12.62	16.63	15.14	15.50	13.96	10.41	13.89
1927	9.68	15.58	14.34	9.08	11.41	12.78	11.95
1928	13.02	13.73	13.84	9.64	11.55	10.77	12.05
1929	12.17	12.68	15.34	11.80	15.41	7.19	12.94
1930	12.10	12.35	11.14	10.69	14.97	10.08	11.83
1931	8.92	11.01	13.09	8.87	13.19	12.15	11.33
1932	10.34	8.77	11.58	9.71	14.93	10.30	11.18
Averages for 10 Years.	12.70	13.82	14.48	11.21	14.50	11.50	13.09

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

Seventeen Children were born out of wedlock during the year. This gives a rate of 4.27 per cent. of total births. Since 1923 the average annual number is 15.

The rate per cent. of Births average 3.19, and 1932 is the highest with 4.27.

The Infantile Mortality Rate of Illegitimate for the year was Nil, and the average for the last 10 years was 98.

**TABLE showing number of Illegitimate Births, Etc.,
during the past Ten Years.**

Year.	Number of Births.	Rate % of Total Births.	No. of Deaths under 1 Year.	Death-rate per 1,000 Births.
1923	20	3.32	4	200
1924	23	3.61	1	43
1925	15	2.74	2	133
1926	17	3.14	2	117
1927	9	1.94	0	Nil
1928	18	3.91	1	55
1929	12	2.45	2	166
1930	18	4.10	3	166
1931	19	2.42	1	100
1932	17	4.27	0	Nil
Average	15	3.19	1	98

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

	Number	Percentage of Births.
JANUARY	2	5.40
FEBRUARY	4	12.12
MARCH	0	0.00
APRIL	0	0.00
MAY	1	2.32
JUNE	1	3.44
JULY	0	0.00
AUGUST	2	7.14
SEPTEMBER	1	3.12
OCTOBER	0	0.00
NOVEMBER	0	0.00
DECEMBER	6	12.24
	17	4.27

BIRTHS IN WARDS, 1932.

	Central.		West-Central.		North-East.		North-West.		South-East.		South-West.		Total.		Rate per 1,000 estimated Population
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
January.....	3	5	0	1	10	5	3	3	2	2	2	1	20	17	12.47
February	4	1	0	0	2	5	0	4	8	3	2	4	16	17	11.12
March.....	2	0	0	2	6	2	0	3	3	6	2	2	13	15	9.44
April	3	5	5	2	3	2	3	1	4	2	2	1	20	13	11.12
May	7	1	1	0	6	2	7	0	9	6	1	3	31	12	14.50
June	3	4	0	1	4	7	2	1	3	2	1	1	13	16	9.78
July	2	4	2	1	2	3	1	3	4	3	5	0	16	14	10.11
August	0	1	0	1	1	4	0	3	4	5	5	4	10	18	9.44
September.....	2	3	3	1	2	0	7	3	2	3	2	4	18	14	10.79
October	4	0	0	1	3	2	3	3	2	5	2	3	14	14	9.44
November	2	1	1	2	4	4	0	3	4	3	2	2	13	15	9.44
December	2	1	2	2	9	8	7	2	5	4	1	6	26	23	16.52
	34	26	14	14	52	44	33	29	50	44	27	31	210	188	11.18
TOTAL ..	60	28	96	62			94	58			398				
Population	5,800	3,192	8,284	6,383	6,294	5,627	35,580								
Birth-rate	10.34	8.77	11.58	9.71	14.93	10.30	11.18								

Deaths.

The total number of Deaths during the year was 530 ; Males 263, Females 267 ; being a decrease of 38 on the previous year.

The Death Rate for the year is 14.89, a decrease of 0.70 on the previous year.

The number of Deaths of Residents in Institutions, etc., outside the district was 167, which has been added to the 363 deaths registered within the district, making a total of 530.

These Deaths are reported to me quarterly by the Registrar General, through the County Medical Officer of Health.

The number of Deaths in Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn, was	85
,, ,, ,, Royal Infirmary, Blackburn	53
,, ,, ,, other Institutions and Places	29

Three Deaths of Non-Residents occurred in the town during the year.

INQUESTS.

There were 42 Inquests held during the year, compared with 35 during 1931. The following were the verdicts :—

	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Accidental Death	12	16	12	8	20	18	17	26	18	21
Natural Causes	18	11	7	10	10	3	12	12	7	16
Suicide	7	1	7	6	10	11	5	3	10	5
	37	28	26	24	40	32	34	41	35	42

Death Rates per 1,000 of the Population in the various Wards of the Borough.

WARDS Population	Central 5800	West- Central 3192	North- East 8284	North- West 6383	South- East 6294	South- West 5627	Borough 35580
1932							
January.....	14.48	11.27	10.14	18.79	7.62	14.92	12.81
February	20.68	0.00	5.79	5.63	15.25	10.66	10.11
March	6.20	3.75	14.48	11.27	11.43	21.32	12.14
April.....	16.55	15.03	10.14	1.87	7.62	8.53	9.44
May	14.48	11.27	8.69	7.51	17.15	10.66	11.46
June	10.34	11.27	8.69	9.39	3.81	10.66	8.76
July	8.27	11.27	2.89	3.75	11.43	14.92	8.09
August	10.34	3.75	2.89	5.63	5.71	4.26	5.39
September ...	6.20	3.75	10.14	11.27	15.25	12.79	0.45
October.....	10.34	15.03	11.58	15.03	3.81	12.79	11.13
November....	8.27	7.51	8.69	11.27	11.43	6.39	9.10
December.....	12.41	3.75	13.03	18.79	17.15	10.66	13.49
Transfers	35.17	82.70	57.94	60.15	62.91	49.04	56.32
Rate for year...	14.48	15.03	13.76	15.03	15.88	15.63	14.89

Death Rates in the various Wards for the past Ten Years.

Year	C.	W.C.	N.E.	N.W.	S.E.	S.W.	Borough.
1923	14.15	12.58	12.56	15.01	14.93	11.67	13.54
1924	14.91	23.97	13.30	17.69	13.89	12.14	14.90
1925	14.84	16.64	13.60	14.06	11.35	15.95	14.13
1926	12.15	8.60	11.27	12.04	10.61	10.90	11.14
1927	16.19	22.51	15.23	12.26	12.73	14.89	15.01
1928	13.34	11.10	13.39	14.17	12.29	11.93	12.89
1929	15.42	15.34	16.71	12.68	15.86	11.55	14.68
1930	14.25	12.35	10.91	14.15	13.13	12.47	12.81
1931	16.16	11.93	13.56	16.22	16.29	18.57	15.59
1922	14.48	15.03	13.76	15.03	15.88	15.63	14.89
Average...	14.58	15.00	13.42	14.33	13.69	13.57	13.95

CAUSES OF DEATH IN DARWEN, M.B., 1932.

Causes of Death (Civilians only).		Males.	Females.
	All Causes	263	267
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—
2.	Measles	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	2	1

Causes of Death (Civilians only).

Males.

Females.

5. Diphtheria	1	—
6. Influenza	10	11
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	—	1
8. Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	6	7
10. Other Tuberculous Diseases	2	—
11. Syphilis	—	—
12. General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	3	1
13. Cancer, Malignant Disease	40	47
14. Diabetes	1	5
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	10	16
16. Heart Disease	46	60
17. Aneurysm	1	—
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	29	19
19. Bronchitis	6	6
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	12	11
21. Other Respiratory Diseases	2	2
22. Peptic Ulcer	5	—
23. Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	—	—
24. Appendicitis	—	2
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	4	—
26. Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	—	6
27. Other Digestive Diseases	10	5
28. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	19	7
29. Puerperal Sepsis	—	4
30. Other Puerperal Causes	—	2
31. Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	10	2
32. Senility	9	13
33. Suicide	4	1
34. Other violence	9	10
35. Other defined diseases	22	26
36. Causes ill-defined or unknown	—	2

Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)—

Small-pox	—
Poliomyelitis	—
Polioencephalitis	—

Causes of Death (Civilians only).

Males. Females.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—

Total	14	5
Legitimate	14	5
Illegitimate	—	—

Live Births—

Total	210	188
Legitimate	197	184
Illegitimate	13	4

Stillbirths—

Total	14	18
Legitimate	13	16
Illegitimate	1	2

Population (mid 1932) 35,580.

The death rate for the year was 14.89 per 1,000.

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
2.1	2.2	1.6	2.08	2.34	2.90	2.14	1.03	0.76	2.07	1.00	1.14	0.69	0.76	1.10	0.51	1.51	0.86	0.27
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
0.44	1.42	0.54	0.32	0.42	0.19	0.12	0.12	0.64	0.07	0.20	0.66	0.15	0.12	0.05	0.15	0.27	0.19	0.11

There have been no causes of sickness or invalidity worthy of special note during the period under review. No conditions of employment or environment appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health.

POOR LAW MEDICAL OUT RELIEF.

This service is under the Administrative Control of the County Council (Public Assistance Committee).

**GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.**

For particulars of Staff see page 4.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

Arrangements in the district for—(a) General Nursing. There is a District Nursing Association in the town employing about seven nurses. Districts are allotted to these nurses. They attend the sick and carry out the physicians' instructions. (b) For Infectious Diseases the Council make an annual grant to the said District Nursing Association of £10 10s. Od. and pay 1/- per nursing visit for attendance upon cases of Puerperal Fever, Puerperal Pyrexia, Pneumonia (in children up to 5 years old), Infantile Diarrhoea, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and Anterior Poliomyelitis. The Darwen Tramways Committee supply the District Nursing Association with free passes for the Trams and Buses.

Mr. G. L. Kay, honorary financial secretary to the District Nursing Association, has kindly supplied me with the following particulars:—

	Gross Income.			Net Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1931	1,823	18	1	1,869	0	10
1932 (including Convalescent Fd.)	2,525	11	10	2,092	0	8

An Orthopædic Clinic for treatment of cases has been established in connection with this Association.

LABORATORY WORK.

The Corporation have an arrangement with the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester, for the examination of Pathological and Bacteriological specimens, the Corporation paying the necessary fees.

The number of Bacteriological Examinations is as follows—Throat Swabs 83.

In addition the Tuberculosis Officer's Department (Dr. MacPhee) have examined 82 specimens of Sputum, with a positive result in nine cases and a negative result in 73.

Table showing the number of Pathological Specimens which have been sent for examination to the Public Health Laboratory, Victoria University, Manchester.

YEAR.	Diphtheria.				Typhoid Fever.			Tuberculosis Sputum.			Cerebro-Spinal Fever.		
	Positive.	Negative.	Doubtful.	Total	Positive.	Negative.	Doubtful.	Total	Positive.	Negative.	Total	Positive.	Negative.
1928.....	1	12	...	13	1	5	...	6	2	6	8	...	...
1929.....	33	112	3	148	...	5	...	5	...	3	3	...	...
1930.....	48	418	2	468	...	2	...	2	1	1	2	...	...
1931.....	36	220	3	259	1	4	...	5	...	2	2	...	...
1932.....	7	73	3	83	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

		Operative from
Local Acts	Darwen Corporation Act .	1887.
	Darwen Corporation Act .	1899.
	Darwen Corporation Act .	1926.
Local Orders	Darwen Order	1912.
General Adoptive Acts	Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890 (Certain Sections)	27th October, 1890.
	The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890 (Certain Sections)	27th October, 1900
	Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 (Certain Sections)	15th January, 1912.
	Public Health Act, 1925 ..	1st April, 1926.
	Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926 and 1931	8th July, 1931.
	Baths and Washhouses Act, 1846-1899	27th November, 1929.
	Children and Young Per- sons Act, 1932	
	Public Health (Cleansing of Shell Fish) Act, 1932.	16th June, 1932.
	Destructive Imported Ani- mals Act, 1932	17th March, 1932.
Bye-laws relating to Public Health	Nuisances—Snow, filth, dust, ashes, rubbish, keeping of animals	3rd March, 1881.
	Slaughterhouses	3rd March, 1881.
	Common Lodging Houses. Prevention of waste, mis- use or contamination of water	3rd March, 1881.
	Public Slaughterhouses ...	5th June, 1891.
	New Streets and Buil- dings	9th April, 1896.
	Houses Let in Lodgings..	28th July 1927. 21st August, 1929.

All the powers granted under the various Acts and Orders are put into operation when necessary. We have no difficulty in getting the public to comply with our requests.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The Blackburn and East Lancashire Royal Infirmary is an Institution standing at the Southern end of the neighbouring Borough of Blackburn.

Every case sent from Darwen is admitted.

The Secretary, Mr. Nathan A. Smith, supplied the following information of patients from Darwen treated in this Institution—

	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
In-Patients	400	403	427	483	418	492	488	698	705	769
Out-Patients	822	824	832	1166	1083	729	1188	1325	1401	1505

Based upon the ordinary expenditure for the year, the Cost of Treatment of these Patients for the year 1932 was £4,213 17s. 0d.

For Smallpox—The Corporation have entered into an agreement with the Blackburn Corporation whereby three beds are reserved for the use of Darwen patients in Finnington Hospital, Blackburn.

For other Infectious Diseases—At Bull Hill Hospital, 36 beds. The cases usually admitted are Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Erysipelas and Pneumonia.

Bull Hill Hospital is owned by the Corporation.

During the year 35 cases of Scarlet Fever, 15 Pneumonia, 12 Diphtheria, and 3 Erysipelas were admitted to our Bull Hill Hospital.

The Medical Officer of Health is the physician in charge of the hospital. Consultants are called in when required.

Experience now leads me to the conclusion that the Hospital could be more efficiently worked, and serve its true function, by having a small cubicle block, of at least 12 cubicles, built.

Such a block would meet the difficulties arising from (i.) Cases of mixed infection ; (ii.) Cases of difficult diagnosis ; (iii.) Suspect cases, and would in my opinion, reduce the cost per patient and the risk of cross infection.

Tubercular cases from Darwen are admitted to various Sanatoria through the Lancashire County Tuberculosis Committee.

Arrangements have been made for the admission of Maternity cases into the Springfield Maternity Home, Blackburn. Dr. Aitken, of Blackburn, is the consultant in cases of difficult confinement, Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia, and where he considers it to be necessary, has the patient removed to his own ward in the Blackburn Royal Infirmary, where he personally attends. The Health Committee make a grant of £25 per annum for the admission of these cases.

The number of cases so removed during the year was Puerperal five, and Midwifery ten.

The Council make the following grants annually to voluntary hospitals : £10 10s. 0d. Royal Infirmary, Manchester ; £5 5s. 0d. St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester ; £5 5s. 0d. Royal Infirmary, Blackburn ; £5 5s. 0d. Royal Eye Hospital, Manchester.

General Medical and Surgical Cases are admitted to Blackburn Royal Infirmary, an Institution maintained by voluntary subscriptions.

Children are admitted to Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn (Public Assistance).

Maternity Cases are admitted to Springfield Maternity Home, Blackburn, by arrangement with Blackburn Corporation, or to Blackburn Royal Infirmary.

Venereal Diseases are treated at Blackburn Royal Infirmary under the Lancashire County Council's Scheme.

The Chronic Sick and Mental Cases are admitted to Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn (P.A.), and Lancashire County Council Asylums.

Cases of Mental Deficiency are admitted to " Calderstones," Whalley, under the control of the Lancashire County Council.

Ear, Nose and Throat Cases and also Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia are treated at Blackburn Royal Infirmary.

There is no hospital accommodation (locally) for the treatment of maternity cases, or for children's ailments. The Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn, is the Public Assistance Infirmary for Darwen, etc., and admits maternity and other cases from Darwen as required. They have at this hospital a maternity section and an open-air section for cripple children, and carry out orthopædic work. Children are also sent for treatment to Manchester Children's Hospital, Pendlebury.

ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

The Lancashire County Council's Orthopædic Scheme was adopted by the Darwen Local Authority, and with the consent of the Board of Education and the Ministry of Health became operative, April, 1932.

The Scheme is as follows—

- I. The Clinic is held at the Maternity Centre on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- II. The Orthopædic Nurse attends each Wednesday.
- III. The Orthopædic Surgeon attends once monthly, examines and advises treatment in all cases.
- IV. Cases when advised by the Surgeon are sent to Ancoats Hospital, Manchester, or Biddulph Grange Hospital.

By this method there is complete control and supervision of all cases. The Clinic being the centre of all action.

PROCEDURE.

Any child in Darwen discovered by the Maternity and Child Welfare Staff, School Medical Staff or Attendance Officer, to be suffering from any crippling condition, is reported to the School Medical Officer. The parents are invited to bring the child to the Child Welfare Clinic or the School Clinic for examination and consultation. Should the case be a suitable one and the parents agree, an appointment is made for the child to attend the Orthopædic Clinic.

The following is a table of the work done at the Orthopædic Clinic from 1st April to 31st December, 1932.

Number of individual children dealt with	51
,, Attendances made	375
,, Splints supplied	19
,, Children given remedial exercises	66
,, Manipulation of club feet	7
,, Plasters supplied	9

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For the removal of Infectious Cases we have a motor ambulance, the motor driver also carrying out all disinfecting. For non-infectious and accident cases a motor ambulance is available from Mr. H. Harwood, Station Garage, by agreement with the Town Council.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

There are two Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. One at No. 43, Bolton Read, is open daily from 9 to 10 a.m., and 5 to 5-30 p.m. Special Afternoon Sessions are held every Tuesday and Thursday from 2-30 to 5 p.m. The other Centre is at Greenfield Institute and an Afternoon Session is held on Wednesdays from 2-30 to 5 p.m.

We have no Day Nursery.

There is one School Clinic (at Holker House), established and maintained by the local Education Authority.

The Lancashire County Council have a Tuberculosis Dispensary at No. 20, Railway Road, Darwen, where patients attend for examination each week.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

All Maternal Deaths and cases of Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia are specially investigated by the Medical Officer of Health. Special Reports on Maternal Deaths, after investigations, are forwarded to the Ministry of Health.

There is no Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children, in the town, other than sending them into Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn.

PUERPERAL FEVER AND PYREXIA.

Under the Public Health (Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations, 1926, the Council have arranged with Dr. R. Y. Aitken, of Blackburn, to act as consultant. Any bacteriological examination that may be required will be carried out in the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester. Cases requiring hospital treatment are admitted to Bull Hill Hospital or Blackburn Royal Infirmary in accordance with consultant's instructions. Should any case remain at home the District Nursing Association under the arrangement with the Council would send a nurse to carry out the medical attendant's instructions.

Year	Puerperal Fever Notific.	Total Births	Deaths		Still Births	Infantile Mortality Rate
			Puerperal Sepsis	Other Accidents or Diseases of Pregnancy		
1925	4	546	0	6	16	119
1926	4	540	2	4	35	75
1927	6	462	1	1	23	69
1928	4	460	3	3	12	67
1929	4	489	2	2	28	85
1930	3	438	1	2	24	70
1931	1	413	0	3	17	82
1932	3	398	4	2	32	47

Dr. Aitken (Consultant) was called on 16 occasions in cases of Puerperal Fever, Puerperal Pyrexia, or difficult confinement. Fees amounting to £50 8s. 0d. were paid.

MEDICAL HELP RECORDS RECEIVED FROM MIDWIVES DURING 1932.

PREGNANCY.

Albumen in Urine	4
Ante-Partum Haemorrhage	2
Previous History (Abdominal Operation)	1
.....	—
.....	7
.....	—

LABOUR.

Uterine Inertia	6
Meconium in Vertex Presentation	1
Miscarriage	1
Twin Pregnancy	2
Rigid Os	1
Malpresentation	11
Ruptured Perineum	28
Delayed Labour	20
Contracted Pelvis	2
Adherent Placenta	4
Occipito Posterior	2
—	—
	78
—	—

LYING-IN.

Rise of Temperature	7
Engorged Breasts	1
Painful Varicose Veins	1
Post Partum Hæmorrhage	4
Abdominal Pains	1
Pain in Ankle	1
—	—
	15
—	—

THE CHILD.

Dangerous Feebleness	4
Loss of Weight	1
Stillbirth	2
Malformation	2
Eye Discharges	2
Foetal Distress	1
Tight Foreskin	1
—	—
	13
—	—

TOTAL, 113.

MIDWIVES ACT, 1918.

In 22 instances where doctors were called in, the Council paid fees amounting to a total of £36 14s. 0d.

NOTICES RECEIVED FROM MIDWIVES DURING 1932.

Notification of Deaths	6
„ „ Liability to be a source of Infection ...	5
„ „ Stillbirths	24
„ „ Artificial Feeding	1
	—
	36
	—

MIDWIVES.

None employed directly by the Local Authority.

Nineteen Midwives are on the Register including one untrained. Two of these practise solely in their Nursing Homes and two combine Nursing Home and District Practice, the remaining 15 practise as District Midwives and Monthly Nurses.

Routine Visits are paid to the Midwives, when Ante-Natal records, case books and bag of appliances are examined and a general survey of the surroundings noted.

The number of Midwives practising is sufficient for the Borough.

REPORT OF INSPECTION OF NURSING HOMES AND PRACTISING MIDWIVES DURING 1932.

Routine Visits to Nursing Homes	9
Special Visits to Nursing Homes	5
Routine Visits to Midwives	26
Special Visits to Midwives	8
Interviewing Midwives at Office	10

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

On the 2nd day of August, 1928, the powers under the Nursing Homes (Registration) Act, 1927, were handed over to the Darwen Corporation by the Lancashire County Council.

Three Private Maternity Homes are registered by the Council.

These Homes are kept under inspection by us and have been found satisfactory.

Under Rule 25, Section E, of the Central Midwives Board, routine visits are paid to these Homes when record books are examined and a general survey is made.

Special visits are paid after receiving notification of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Puerperal Pyrexia or Puerperal Fever, to see that Rule 6, Section E., is carried out.

RETURN OF VACCINATION FOR DARWEN, 1932.

MONTHS.	Success- ful Vaccina- tion.	Died	Unvac- cinated.	Insus- ceptible.	Ex- empted.	Post- poned.	Re- moved out of Town and Traced	Re- moved and Cannot Trace	Unac- counted for.	Success- fully vaccinated each quarter.
January ...	11	4	0	0	20	1	0	0	0	
February ...	11	1	0	0	22	0	0	0	0	
March	4	0	0	0	22	0	0	0	3	26
April	12	0	1	1	20	0	0	0	0	
May	13	2	0	0	29	0	0	0	0	
June	7	1	0	0	22	0	0	0	1	32
July	7	0	0	0	23	0	0	0	1	
August ...	10	2	0	0	13	2	0	0	1	
September..	4	3	0	0	21	2	0	0	3	21
October ...	1	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	4	
November..	2	1	0	0	7	0	0	0	18	
December	0	1	0	0	9	0	0	0	22	3
	82	15	1	1	232	5	0	0	53	82

Year	Births	Successfully Vaccinated	Rate per cent Vaccinated
1923	602	208	34.55
1924	636	178	27.98
1925	546	156	28.57
1926	540	158	29.25
1927	462	144	31.16
1928	460	124	26.95
1929	489	128	26.18
1930	438	96	21.91
1931	413	101	24.45
1932	398	82	20.60

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACTS.

Table showing the number of Births and Notified during 1932.

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Stillborn.
JANUARY	18	19	37	4
FEBRUARY	17	16	33	2
MARCH	17	18	35	3
APRIL	21	12	33	1
MAY	27	16	43	3
JUNE	17	25	42	2
JULY	16	13	29	2
AUGUST	13	12	25	0
SEPTEMBER	14	16	30	2
OCTOBER	16	12	28	0
NOVEMBER	19	17	36	1
DECEMBER	22	24	46	4
	217	200	417	24

Births Notified by Midwives	405
Births Notified by Medical Men	6
Births Notified by Midwives and Medical Men	6
Total	417

Table showing Births Notified, Visits, Etc.

Year.	Births Notified.				Births not Notified.		Births Visited.		
	Males.	Females	Total.	Still-born.	No.	Prosecutions.	No.	% of Total	Births Revisited
1923	303	326	629	33	5	0	596	100.0	2545
1924	331	310	641	26	3	0	593	92.5	3989
1925	274	272	546	16	9	0	489	89.5	2769
1926	273	269	542	35	4	0	532	98.1	2954
1927	239	227	466	23	3	0	466	98.2	2666
1928	245	222	467	12	0	0	463	99.1	3262
1929	262	235	497	21	2	0	473	95.1	3769
1930	229	198	427	17	2	0	426	99.7	3612
1931	192	219	411	13	2	0	410	99.7	3878
1932	217	200	417	24	4	0	379	90.8	3873

DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Year	Premature Birth	Convulsions	Bronchitis & Pneumonia	Diarrhoeal Diseases	Whooping Cough	Measles	Inanition	Congenital Defects	Other Causes	Total	Rate per 1000 Births
1923	12	3	6	...	...	1	2	9	14	47	78
1924	15	...	8	4	...	7	6	3	7	43	67
1925	13	2	12	...	1	7	2	9	19	65	119
1926	6	2	6	2	2	...	3	6	14	41	75
1927	8	2	7	1	...	...	4	4	6	32	69
1928	5	4	9	...	...	...	...	5	8	31	67
1929	11	3	11	...	...	...	4	3	10	42	85
1930	6	...	5	1	...	2	...	5	12	31	70
1931	10	1	5	...	1	...	1	4	12	34	82
1932	4	1	2	...	2	...	1	4	5	19	47

DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE IN MONTHS.

	Under 1 Month M'ths.	Under 2 M'ths.	Under 3 M'ths.	Under 4 M'ths.	Under 5 M'ths.	Under 6 M'ths.	Under 7 M'ths.	Under 8 M'ths.	Under 9 M'ths.	Under 10 M'ths.	Under 11 M'ths.	Under 12 M'ths.	Total
Deaths	12	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	19
Percentage of Total .	63.1	...	5.2	15.7	5.2	...	...	...	...	...	10.5	...	...

TABLE SHOWING INFANTILE MORTALITY IN THE VARIOUS WARDS.

Year.	C.	W.C.	N.E.	N.W.	S.E.	S.W.	Boro.'
1923	119	70	81	59	63	64	78
1924	97	114	82	40	62	52	67
1925	106	162	74	79	151	208	119
1926	125	34	80	66	83	46	75
1927	114	111	46	48	26	102	69
1928	37	106	81	45	102	301	67
1929	173	93	66	62	48	139	85
1930	68	24	52	126	51	101	70
1931	113	83	81	103	70	57	82
Average for 9 yrs.	105	88	71	69	72	118	79
1932	83	0	41	16	85	17	47

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Two Health Visitors have been appointed and we have established two Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. Two sessions are held weekly at the Bolton Road Centre, and one at the Greenfield Centre. Advice is given daily by the Health Visitors at Bolton Road Centre to any mothers between the hours of 9 to 10 a.m., and 5 to 5-30 p.m. The Medical Officer of Health attends one session each week for ante-natal work. Children up to five years are weighed and record cards are kept.

The following are particulars of the work of the Health Visitors—

First Visits	379
Second and Subsequent Visits	3873
Visits to Children over 1 year and under 5 years	4534
Visits to Expectant Mothers	330
Visits re Stillbirths	23
Visits to Babies suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum—First	2
Visits to Babies suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum—Second and Subsequent Visits	0
Visits to Babies suffering from Measles and other infectious diseases ...	357
Other Special Visits	174
	—
	9672
	—

The following particulars were obtained on first visits—

Feeding—

Breast	303
Bottle	43
Breast and Bottle	29
Breast and Spoon	1
Spoon Fed	1
Pipette	2
	—
	379
	—

Types of Bottle Used—

Bottles without Tubes (including medicine bottles, etc.)	56
Bottles with Glass Tubes	14
Bottles with Rubber Tubes	2
	—
	72
	—

Foods—

Cow's Milk (Grade A)	8
Cow's Milk (undiluted)	1
Cow's Milk (Certified)	4
Cow's Milk (Pasteurized) (diluted)	2
Cow's Milk and Water	40
Cow's Milk and Barley Water	2
Cow's Milk and Lime Water	1
Nestlé's Milk	1
Dried Milk	11
Patent Foods	2
Whey	2
	—
	74

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Bolton Road, Greenfield.

Number of children who have been weighed during the year	599	...	140
Total Number of Weighings	6406	...	1734
Babies specially examined by the Medical Officer	352	...	44
Babies referred to Family Doctor for Treatment	9	...	0
Babies recommended for Institution Treatment	24	...	0
Average Attendance of Expectant Mothers per Session ...	1	...	1
Average Attendance of Mothers per Session	70	...	41
Average Attendance of Children per Session	71	...	41

The following is a summary of cases which were examined by the Medical Officer of Health at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, and found to be suffering from some type of defect requiring special treatment.

REFERRED TO BLACKBURN ROYAL INFIRMARY.

No.	Condition.	Result.
1	Tonsils and Adenoids	Had operation.
2	Squint	1 Wearing Glasses and 1 having treatment.
1	Swollen Knee	Cured.
1	Swelling under Tongue	Cured without treatment.
1	Pyloric Stenosis	Had operation.
1	Hypospadias	No treatment advised.
1	Backward	No improvement.
2	Neovus	Still under treatment.

ADMITTED TO BULL HILL INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL

1 Scarlet Fever Disease cured.

REFERRED FOR DENTAL TREATMENT.

1 Decayed Teeth Had extractions.

REFERRED TO LOCAL ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC.

2 Delayed Walking Still under treatment.
3 Genu Valgum Still under treatment.
3 Tibial Curving Still under treatment.
1 Flat Foot Still under treatment.
1 Torticollis Still under treatment.
1 Talipes Still under treatment.
1 Sacro Meningocele No treatment advised.

REFERRED TO FAMILY DOCTOR.

1 Tonsils and Adenoids To have operation later.
1 Cold and Cough Cured.
1 Swallowed Bone Ring Cured.
1 Bronchitis Cured.
1 Septic Spots Cured.
1 Ringworm Cured.
1 Mastoid Abscess Had operation.
1 Circumcision Had operation.
1 Backward Walking Still under treatment.

PARTICULARS OF OTHER INDIVIDUAL CASES SPECIALLY
EXAMINED BY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Defects.	No.	Defects.	No.
Eye Discharge	8	Papilloma of Skin	1
Strabismus	8	Erythema	1
Blepharitis	1	Simple Rashes	14
Conjunctivitis	3	Septic Sores	1
Bronchitis	1	Intertrigo	2
Pertussis	1	Abrasion of Leg	1
Otorrhœa	4	Insect Bites	1
Pain in Ear	2	Ringworm	1
Wax in Ear	3	Phimosis	2
Mastoid Disease	1	Herpes	2
Folliculitis (Face)	1	Balanitis	2
Coughs and Cold	1	Long Prepuce	1
Enlarged Tonsils	5	Undescended testicles	2
Enlarged Glands	3	Hydrocele	1
Teething	4	Nocturnal Enuresis	1
Nasal Catarrh	2	Oxyuris Vermicularis	2
Feeding	6	Hypospadias	1
Vomiting	6	Double Anus	1
Colic	1	Inflamed Labia	1
Stomatitis	1	Defective speech	1
Constipation	6	Sprains	1
Diarrhœa	6	Delayed and defective walking..	2
Abnormal Stools	1	Swelling of Knee	1
Loss of Weight	6	Swelling under Tongue	1
Umbilical Hernia	22	Swelling of Arm	1
Umbilical Discharge	7	Hydrocephalus	1
Inguinal Hernia	1	Convulsions	1
Rickets (Early)	12	Anæmia	2
Flat Foot	1	Swallowed Bone Ring	1
Talipes	1	Enlarged Abdomen	1
Nævi	5	Cleft Palate	1
Pyloric Stenosis	1	Molluscum Contagiosum	1
External Canthus	1	Backward Development	1
Impetigo	1	Mentally Defective	3
Urticaria	5	Meningocele	1
Pityriasis	3	Periostitis Occipital	1
Dermatitis	7	Caput Succedaneum	1

We have no local Maternity Home or Hospital for the reception of expectant and nursing mothers and young children.

During the year there were six maternal deaths. One woman died from sudden heart failure due to Myocarditis. Five women died in Institutions, upon three of these cases inquests were held.

The above cases were seen regularly by the Health Visitors and also were attended to ante-natally by their own doctors.

During the year 153 expectant mothers have been advised, as required, at the Centres or at their homes.

The Poor Law Authorities deal with cases of unmarried mothers, illegitimate children, and children temporarily or permanently deprived of a home with their own parents. The cases are admitted to Queen's Park Hospital.

The Local Authority has instituted a scheme for the supply of milk for necessitous infants and expectant and nursing mothers. During 1932 free grants in necessitous cases were made as follows—

Fresh Cow's Milk value £59 17s. 6d., Dried Milk 9s. 0d., a total of £60 6s. 6d.

The applicants for this grant fill up a form; inquiries are made regarding the social conditions and income of applicants and a graded scale is worked to before any grant of free milk is made.

We have a Voluntary Care Committee, consisting of about 40 ladies resident in the town who interest themselves in the work of the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. Three of this number are members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee. In this connection there is a Mothers' Club which meets one evening every fortnight at the Maternity Centre. A course of lectures and practical demonstrations is given. There is also a Savings Scheme in connection with the Mothers' Club.

The mothers attending the Maternity Centres had their annual one day's outing in June. They spent the day at Blackpool where the Mayoress made arrangements for the mothers to be supplied with tea and the babies with milk. A generous friend of the Mayor, and a warm supporter of the Clinic, paid the railway fare of about 150 mothers who had put in regular

attendances with their babies at the Clinics during the year. The total number of mothers at the picnic was about 500. The Ladies' Committee and the Mothers were very grateful to the friends who made it possible for the mothers and their babies to have such a splendid health-giving outing.

All children have record cards and when each child attains the age of five years the card is transferred to the School Medical Department.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

The two Health Visitors are appointed Inspectors to carry out the duties, and during 1932 it was only necessary to pay four visits.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The Water is collected mostly from Moorland, and is a soft water, having only about four degrees of hardness.

The service is a constant one.

The approximate number of dwellinghouses supplied direct is 10,450. There is no supply by stand pipe.

There is no possibility of contamination in the vicinity of dwelling-houses.

Water from Sunnyhurst Reservoir is slightly acid and is treated with Sodium Carbonate before sand filtration, and limestone is also placed in the bed of the brook at the intake.

Water from house taps has been analysed during the year to test the efficiency of the treatment, and has been found to be satisfactory.

Several farms and remote country houses have private supplies.

There is no insufficiency.

Three inch and four inch water mains have been extended where necessary during the year and separate service pipes laid therefrom to the houses.

The amount used during the year was 409,395,000 gallons ; 38,955,000 being for trade purposes, the remainder for domestic use at the rate of 28.4 gallons per head per day.

The total Rainfall for the year on the Watershed was 49.42 inches, where rain fell on 216 days ; and in Bold Venture Park 50.18 inches, where there was rain on 221 days.

The heaviest Rainfall at Bold Venture Park was in October with 9.17 inches, and the lowest in February with 0.19 inches. At the Watershed the heaviest fall occurred in October with 9.16 inches, and the lowest in February with 0.16 inches.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The river is regularly sampled for pollution. Inspections are also made by the Sanitary Inspectors and the bed of the river kept as free as possible from debris.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Bacteriological method is the one in use for the treatment of sewage, and is efficient.

There are a few scattered houses situated in outlying parts of the town to which our drainage system has not yet been extended. These houses are still on the pail system and necessitate the collection and removal of the excreta by the Local Authority.

The Water, Smoke and Chemical Grenade tests are applied to drains.

Sewers are frequently examined and flushed.

The drainage system is of the combined type.

CLOSETS AND ASHPITS.

The following constitutes the accommodation in this respect at the end of the year in question—

Pails	194
Water Closets	8800
Waste Water Closets	2422
Cesspools	1
Total	11417

Conversions and Installations during 1932—

New Water Closets fixed	26
Premises with one New Clost fixed	20
Premises with more than one New Closet fixed	1
Pails converted to Water Closets	2
Waste Water Closets converted to Water Closets ...	24
Baths installed during the year	49
Urinals installed during the year	0

Comparative Conversions—

	During year 1932.	During Five years 1927-1931.
No. of Privy Closets—		
To Fresh W.C.'s	—	—
To Waste W.C.'s	—	—
To Pails, etc.	—	—
No. of Pail Closets—		
To Fresh W.C.'s	2	7
To Waste W.C.'s	—	—
No. of Waste W.C.'s to Fresh W.C.'s	24	95
No. of Houses at which Movable Ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles	0	50

There are five Dry Ashpits and 11,091 portable refuse receptacles, the majority of which are ashes tubs and placed under covered sheds in the yards. The ashes tubs are gradually being replaced with galvanized bins having tight fitting lids.

The Corporation under the provisions of a Local Act contribute half cost of conversions of pails to fresh water closets. In new property only fresh water closets are allowed to be fixed.

Most of the Pail Closets still left are outside the sewered areas of the Borough and cannot be dealt with at present. They are emptied mostly during the night.

We have no privy middens in the town area.

Mr. Walsh, Senior Sanitary Inspector, submits the following summary of work done in the Cleansing and Health Departments—

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The Scavenging and collection of House Refuse is efficiently carried out by the Sanitary Authority.

The house refuse from the most distant parts of the town is collected and deposited at the Destructor by motor, the rest of the ashes removal is done by team labour, involving the employment of six horses, carts and drivers, and 14 men loaders. The house refuse is incinerated in the Meldrum's Destructor which is situated in the Electricity Works Yard. The residual clinker which averages 55.41 per cent. was deposited on the tips.

The weight of ashes collected and the clinker removed was based on the results of test weighings ascertained during 1930.

In the parts of the town more distant from the Destructor the ashes-tubs are being replaced by dust-bins, which are much more sanitary, and easier to deal with. This arrangement is tending towards a gradual reduction in the amount deposited and a more expeditious collection.

In 1928 250 Ashes-tubs were replaced with Galvanised Bins.

In 1929	1,000	„	„	„	„	„
In 1930	1,050	„	„	„	„	„
In 1931	1,350	„	„	„	„	„
In 1932	1,400	„	„	„	„	„

Further conversions will gradually take place.

All tins are sorted from the refuse, pressed and sold, the total amount received for the 12 months ending March 31st, 1933, was £8 7s. 0d. For some time this kind of refuse has been difficult to dispose of. This accounts for the small amount received during the year.

The following is a summary of work done from January 1st to December 31st, 1932—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.
House Refuse to Destructor (estimated)	8199	... 18	... 2
Market Garbage to Destructor (estimated) ...	186	... 7	... 1
	—	—	—
	8386	... 5	... 3
	—	—	—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Ozs.	
Clinker Removed by Motor from Destructor.	4544	10	1	997 Loads.
Sweepings to Various Tips	2075		„	
Sweepings Deposited by Handcarts at Destructor	2136		„	
Gully Wreck to Various Tips	1066		„	
Street Gullies Emptied	27629		„	
Length of Streets Swept by Hand	2758 $\frac{1}{4}$		Miles.	
Excreta to Sewage Works	382		Loads.	
Excreta Pails Emptied	8408			
Ashes Tops Emptied	404040			
Ashpits Emptied	158			
Ashes Tops and Dust Bins Added during the Year	24			
Dust Bins Exchanged for Ashes Tops	1400			
Number of Portable Refuse Receptacles	11091			
Snow removed from Main thoroughfares	Nil		Loads.	

The 15 Public Urinals situated in various parts of the Borough are cleaned every day. Those situated in the Public Parks are attended to by the gardeners.

STREET LITTER.

Wire baskets and metal boxes have been fixed along the roadways in the town, and whilst a great amount of waste material and paper is deposited in them, there is still much litter indiscriminately thrown by careless people upon the footpaths and roadways, particularly during the evenings and week-ends.

A circular letter respecting litter on streets has been forwarded to the Headmasters and Headmistresses of the Schools in the town, soliciting the help of the scholars in an endeavour to keep the streets clean by placing in the bins waste paper, etc., they may have in their possession.

GENERAL INSPECTION OF THE BOROUGH.

Number of premises and houses visited	4485
Number of houses visited (Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925) ...	131
Number of inspections of Schools	207
Number of inspections of Factories and Workshops	460
Number of inspections of Lodging House	180
Number of inspections of Bakehouses	185

Number of inspections of Dairies and Cowsheds	247
Number of inspections of Refuse Tips	182
Complaints received and investigated	236
Number of re-inspections made	4711
Number of samples purchased (Sale of Food and Drugs Act)	22
Visits paid to houses (Re cases of Infectious Diseases)	150
Number of houses disinfected	235
Loads of bedding steam disinfected	129
Number of smoke observations taken	12
Number of drains, etc., tested	60
Total number of nuisances discovered	3351
Letters written respecting nuisances	332
Informal notices served	3283
Statutory notices served	327
Number of nuisances abated including outstanding nuisances from previous year	2973

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF NUISANCES DISCOVERED.

Defective drains	243
Choked sewers	17
Defective Gas Pipes	5
Defective soilpipes and water closets	164
Defective downspouts, easing troughs, roofs and external walls	789
Dilapidated house doors	38
Defective plastering of walls	147
Dirty houses and premises	136
Dirty and dilapidated closets	47
Accumulations of refuse	126
Nuisances from animals	1
Insufficient water supplies	100
Defective wash boilers	20
Defective or uneven slop gullies	82
Defective kitchen sinks	18
Defective firegrates and flues	24
Broken slop-pipes	85
Choked waste water closets	126
Choked water closets	48
Insanitary yards, defective flagging	45
Defective internal floors	106
Insufficient ventilation	332
Dangerous buildings	60

Burst water pipes	17
Waste water closets converted to water closets	24
Pail closets converted to water closets	2
Defective tippers of waste water closets	490
Other miscellaneous nuisances	59

During the year 237 forms of agreement were signed by owners of property for Corporation workmen to open and repair choked and defective water and waste water closets and do other drainage work. All repairs, etc., were supervised by your officials. Many nuisances were abated by owners and occupiers immediately after the service of informal notices. In 327 cases it was necessary to serve statutory notices.

BLACK SMOKE NUISANCES.

Prior to the depression in the cotton trade there were 62 cotton mills in the Borough. A number of these have been permanently closed and the machinery scrapped. Several other mills have been closed for long periods, whilst others have provided partial employment for the operatives. During the year 33 cotton mills were running. There is therefore a very great diminution in the coal consumption.

Twelve observations only were taken, each of one hour's duration, the average emission of black smoke per hour being 2.60 minutes. Many visits however, were paid to the mill boiler-houses, when advice was given to the firemen regarding effective methods of stoking with a view to reducing the amount of black smoke emitted.

MODEL LODGING HOUSE.

During the year there has been a decrease of 2.28 per month in the number of lodgers when compared with 1931, accounted for by the depression in the cotton trade. This is the only common lodging house in the town, a distinct advantage from a public health standpoint. This house was frequently visited, often in the evening after the lodgers had retired to rest, when the cubicles occupied were checked and the books examined. In order to curtail expenditure the two top rooms containing 65 cubicles were temporarily closed during the year. Owing to the operations of the Unemployment Insurance Acts there were fewer vagrants on the road than formerly and a number of aged, infirm and sick lodgers entered Queen's Park Institution, Blackburn.

The following Table shows the daily average number of occupants for each month during the last 10 years—

	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
Jan.	91.29	82.00	108.64	90.96	88.58	78.80	88.19	80.74	60.48	60.12
Feb.	93.03	81.34	111.39	88.32	88.67	85.62	87.67	74.89	61.21	58.48
March ...	86.90	84.39	110.93	95.74	87.19	87.77	89.32	74.67	66.64	58.58
April	87.43	97.50	119.83	95.53	84.20	84.00	92.30	80.33	65.23	58.43
May	86.35	98.96	118.94	98.29	81.08	77.90	82.83	76.87	61.38	57.64
June	83.53	97.20	109.13	94.20	84.00	86.20	79.10	74.00	61.36	60.73
July	73.25	94.64	98.41	97.48	80.42	88.32	77.54	71.77	63.38	59.80
August ...	80.64	98.83	104.35	86.69	82.00	78.51	70.09	67.03	59.09	55.67
Sept.	77.43	96.46	99.63	86.46	76.40	78.06	78.03	65.53	56.63	55.00
October ...	75.51	99.48	96.00	89.22	77.00	77.51	80.19	61.35	57.48	56.61
Nov.	73.26	104.09	96.50	92.36	80.43	83.06	78.16	58.23	55.66	58.70
Dec.	78.03	108.08	94.32	90.93	75.00	88.48	79.41	59.09	58.16	59.58
Average ...	82.22	95.37	105.67	91.34	82.08	82.85	81.98	70.37	60.55	58.27
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The daily average number of female lodgers for 1932 was 7.63 as against 9.60 during 1931.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS.

There are very few caravans and these are in remote parts of the district. Strict supervision is maintained.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Three firms carry on offensive trades within the Borough, i.e., Tripe Boiling and Gut Scraping. The conduct of the trade is carried out satisfactorily in each case.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 AND 1928.

We have no works to which these Acts are applicable in this district and bed manufacturers and upholsterers here do not use this material.

INSPECTIONS OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The Cinemas, Clubs and other public buildings were regularly visited and the sanitary conveniences, etc., examined. Many repairs were effected during the summer.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

During 1932 no legal action was necessary. Local Byelaws were granted to the Corporation in 1929 and these are adequate.

WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

The Workshops and Workplaces are on the whole in a fairly good condition.

UNDERGROUND SLEEPING ROOMS.

There is no need for regulations as we have no such rooms in Darwen.

SCHOOLS.

The condition of the Schools on the whole is good. The town's water supply is connected to all the Schools and is adequate.

The playgrounds of several of the Schools are unpaved and in one School pail closets still obtain.

It was not found necessary to close any school on account of outbreaks of infectious disease.

The Schools are inspected by the Sanitary Inspectors three times per annum during the holiday periods. At these periods the floors and furniture are washed and the walls are swept ; all lavatories are specially attended to and limewashed. Any structural defects found are speedily remedied.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Special lectures were given at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre and at various Schools in the Borough.

LECTURES, 1932.

7/ 1/32 Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. Lecturer : Miss Jepson.
Subject : First Aid.

21/ 1/32 M. and C.W. Centre. Dr. Robertson. Causes of Ageing.

4/ 2/32 M. and C. W. Centre. Miss Chapman.

18/ 2/32 M. and C. W. Centre. Dr. Robertson. Requirements of a Pregnant Woman.

16/ 3/32 St. John Ambulance Hall. Dr. J. Robertson.

17/ 3/32 M. and C.W. Centre. Dr. J. Robertson. Puerperal Fever.

22/ 3/32 St. John's (Mothers' Union) School. Dr. J. Robertson. Motherhood.

6/10/32 M. and C.W. Centre. Dr. J. Robertson. Measles.

20/10/32 M. and C.W. Centre. Miss Smith. Dressmaking.

3/11/32 M. and C.W. Centre. Miss Hayhurst. Cooking.

3/11/32 C.W.S. Women's Guild. Dr. J. Robertson. Motherhood.

10/11/32 M. and C.W. Centre. Dr. J. Robertson. Whooping Cough.

16/11/32 St. John Ambulance Hall. Mr. C. R. Walsh. The Bones of the Body.

24/11/32 M. and C.W. Centre. Miss Tipper. Health Problems for Women.

24/11/32 Blackburn Road Guild. Mr. C. R. Walsh. The Romance of Digestion.

1/12/32 M. and C.W. Centre. Dr. J. Robertson. Diphtheria.

Each month 1,000 copies of a magazine, " Better Health " (published by the Central Council for Health Education of the Society of Medical Officers of Health) are circulated free from the Health Office, Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics and Senior Schools. Business people advertise therein and short articles by the Medical Officer and other members of the staff appear in each issue.

Housing.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1932.

Number of new houses erected during the year—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)).....	8
(i) By the Local Authority	1
(ii) By other Local Authorities	0
(iii) By other bodies and persons	7
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—	
(i) By the Local Authority	0
(ii) By other bodies or persons	0

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	4485
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	4711
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	131
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	270
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	35
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	96

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	80
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year—

A.—Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
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(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
(a) By Owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts— ...

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
(a) By Owners	3
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

C.—Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0

D.—Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

E.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
(a) By Owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	0

F.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders became operative	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AS TO HOUSING CONDITIONS.

The majority of the houses in the town are built in street formation, for the most part at right angles from the main roadways. The greater number are designed to accommodate people of the working classes. The streets are fairly wide. Houses for the most part are commodious, lofty, well-lighted, and provided with fireplaces. The majority of the floors of the living rooms are flagged. Yorkshire stone has been used for the fronts in most of the houses, and bricks for the rear and internal walls. The oldest houses are stone built and are found on or near the old Roman highway or in folds.

It has not been the general custom to carry out subsoil drainage before building, with the result that dampness is common because of the subsoil being waterlogged. From the nature of the subsoil and the contour of the district, subsoil drainage of building sites should be insisted upon.

SUFFICIENCY OF SUPPLY OF HOUSES.

There is a demand for low rented houses particularly for newly-married people, many of whom are forced to live with their parents or in lodgings. Measures have been suggested in my report to the Town Council under the Housing Act, 1930, Section 25.

There are no special difficulties in the way of providing suitable sites for new houses.

Owing to continued depression in the cotton trade I do not anticipate any increase in the population of the Borough for some time.

OVERCROWDING.

Owing to the lack of small and low-rented houses there is undoubtedly a degree of overcrowding in some of the pre-war built houses. The term overcrowding is used here to mean, not overcrowding in terms of people to cubic space within the house, but the congregating together in one house of more than two families.

The cause of this overcrowding is accounted for to a great extent in most cases by (i.) inability to pay the present rentals, (ii.) there being no houses available at cheaper rentals.

No special action was taken during the year to deal with this matter.

FITNESS OF HOUSES.

No special difficulties have been experienced in action taken under the Public Health Acts or under the Housing Acts, as defects have usually been remedied by owners of property after service of Informal Notices.

There were no houses found to be inadequately supplied with water from private sources.

A careful survey of the town was made and the results of the examination lead me to the conclusion that the question of remedial measures for dealing with insanitary property can be met by treating the properties concerned as individual houses.

A number of such individual houses require attention, as they do not at present comply in all respects with the requisite conditions as to fitness for human habitation.

There are approximately 236 separate dwellinghouses with common yards, etc., which have 124 water closets, or in more remote parts of the town, pail closets, provided for their use. At present the accommodation is regarded as adequate.

By informal action under the Housing Acts, 24 houses were renovated and made fit for human habitation. These were internally and externally repaired and provision made for through ventilation and efficient lighting by the fixing of windows made to open. In a few instances back doors were fixed.

Similar work is proceeding at other houses.

RENT BOOKS. HOUSING ACT, 1925, SECTION 5.

The attention of landlords and agents has been drawn to the provisions of the above Section which makes it incumbent upon such persons to have inscribed in the Rent Book the name and address of the Medical Officer of Health. In several instances this has not been complied with, and offenders have been cautioned.

BYELAWS RELATING TO HOUSES, ETC.

The present Byelaws have proved to be adequate.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

The milk supplied in Darwen is of good quality.

The Milk and Dairies (Consolidated) Act, 1915, The Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, are all being complied with according to the various provisions. The Sanitary Inspectors carry out the duties and make inspections. The books and certificates required by the Acts and Orders are kept up-to-date.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923, three Dealer's Licences to sell "Certified" Milk, three to sell "Grade A" Milk, and thirty-eight to sell "Pasteurized" Milk have been granted.

There has been no refusal or revocation of registration of retailers or of licences for graded milk. In several cases structural alterations to premises were carried out before registration.

According to the provisions of Section 6 of The Milk and Dairies (Consolidated) Act, 1915, Retailers of Milk must have the name and address of the vendor marked on the vehicle or receptacle. It has been necessary to warn several persons for contravening this order.

Vehicles, churns, etc., are examined and every endeavour is made to encourage scrupulous cleanliness in the handling of milk,

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There were 72 cowkeepers on the register in 1932, and 210 Retail Purveyors of Milk other than Cowkeepers. This includes 161 dealers registered for the sale of bottled sterilized milk, etc. 247 inspections were made during the year. Approximately there are 925 cows in the Borough. There are many purveyors of milk whose farms are situated without the Borough. The water supplies of the farms and dairies have been carefully watched and attention paid to the cleaning of shippings, dairies, utensils, etc.

It was found necessary to call the attention of certain farmers to the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, Part 5, Section 20, regarding the keeping of poultry in cowsheds. Floors and stalls were found soiled with excreta voided by poultry. The birds are often housed in the vicinity of the farm buildings and roam about the farm yards, etc. The farmers were advised to remove the cotes to suitable places some distance away from the dairies and cowsheds.

The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops are periodically inspected and there is a very great improvement in their condition.

During the year under review the following work was done—

One new shippion and three new dairies were erected.

Five dairies were separated from other buildings.

At six farms new windows were fixed in the shippings.

At two farms the shippion ceilings were raised.

At seven farms the water supplies were improved.

At thirteen farms shippion floors were relaid in concrete and channelled, walls cemented and window bottoms splayed off.

At two farms new midden steads and liquid manure tanks constructed.

One new pig sty was built at the proper distance from the dwelling-house.

At three farms new barn and shippion doors were hung.

In seven instances new easing trough and downspouts were fixed.

At five farms the roofs were repaired, two new closets were fixed, etc.

Automatic watering troughs have been fixed in the stalls in many shippings.

The work that has been carried out is estimated to have cost about £1,116.

The extensive structural improvements effected in the cowsheds have resulted in a general improvement in the condition of the sheds in regard to cleanliness. The drainage facilities cause the liquid manure to flow away more quickly and the manure is removed from the channels at shorter intervals than hitherto. Consequently the hind quarters and udders of the cows are much cleaner and freer from manure. There are unfortunately a few cow-keepers who cannot be said to be clean, that is obvious when they are met personally at the farms or seen in their floats in the streets, and is very apparent when the shippion doors are opened. Still there is a gradual improvement all round which we hope will be maintained.

The whole of the structural alterations have been done by the owners and it has not been necessary to serve Statutory Notices.

The cowkeepers and milk sellers have been kept informed of the various regulations and orders in force, and copies of circulars issued by the Board of Agriculture relating to Foot and Mouth Disease, Anthrax, etc., have been supplied. Where important alterations to shippions were necessary, copies of Circular No. 40 respecting construction of shippions were distributed to the owners and occupiers.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS (TUBERCULOSIS ORDER), 1925.

When necessary the veterinary surgeon is called in to inspect dairy cows.

Regarding tuberculous milk, no samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. Thirty-one cattle were clinically examined by the Borough Veterinary Inspector, and he reported that in his opinion one animal showed clinical evidence of tuberculosis. This animal was slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, and a postmortem examination confirmed the diagnosis, compensation was paid to the owner. The carcase was sent to the Destructor and cremated.

MEAT, ETC.

The stalls, shops, stores and vehicles are under the supervision of the Inspector and the provisions of the Regulations are being complied with. The premises are visited regularly and strict supervision is kept.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

A public slaughterhouse has been provided and this is conducted satisfactorily. There are no private slaughterhouses in the Borough.

All animals were killed at the Public Abattoirs where there is ample lairage and slaughtering accommodation. Strict supervision was maintained throughout the year; the slaughtering was done as expeditiously and humanely as possible, a Temple-Cox captive bolt humane killer being used for very large beasts and pigs.

Animals passing through the Abattoirs were carefully examined before and after slaughter. The quality of meat has been of a uniformly high standard. Consignments of fresh meat have been received from Birkenhead, Bolton, Blackburn, Wilpshire, etc. Many visits have been paid to the butcher's shops of which there are about 60 in the Borough. A sharp outlook has been maintained to see that the orders of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, and the Sale of Food Order, 1921, were obeyed. It was found necessary to caution a few persons for careless handling and wrapping of meat.

The continued depression in the staple trade of the district has considerably affected the number of animals slaughtered in the Abattoirs. There is however, an increase in the consumption of chilled and frozen beef, mutton and pork.

The following table shews the number of animals slaughtered—

NUMBER OF CATTLE SLAUGHTERED AT THE ABATTOIRS.

	BEASTS.		SHEEP AND LAMBS		CALVES		PIGS		TOTAL	
	1931	1932	1931	1932	1931	1932	1931	1932	1931	1932
January.....	116	105	721	739	3	1	22	13	862	858
February	111	116	764	742	1	0	24	7	900	865
March	127	96	784	735	4	1	20	24	935	856
April..... ..	103	97	773	698	2	0	10	7	8 8	802
May	91	111	755	779	0	0	2	3	848	893
June	111	77	781	841	0	1	3	0	895	919
July	72	67	794	734	1	1	0	4	867	806
August	110	95	900	994	1	0	10	1	1021	1090
September	101	79	1042	942	0	0	16	6	1159	1027
October ...	116	99	961	1032	2	1	43	41	1122	1173
November	128	130	926	1272	1	5	29	59	1084	1466
December	106	94	836	904	3	5	84	51	1029	1054
Total	1292	1166	10037	10410	18	15	263	216	11610	11809

During the year it was found necessary to slaughter several animals after the usual hours, either during evenings or week-ends. I was present at the Abattoirs on these occasions. Visits to farms were also necessary prior to removal of animals to the Abattoirs.

The total amount of meat condemned and destroyed during the year was 7,635 lbs., as follows—

Number Examined. Beasts. Sheep. Calves. Pigs.			Cause.	Weight Condemned. Whole Carcasses. Lbs.	Parts of Carcasses. Lbs.
1	—	—	1 Tuberculosis	653	—
36	—	—	2 ... — Tuberculosis	—	2903
—	—	—	2 ... — Immaturity	50	—
—	4	—	— Enteritis	153	—
—	2	—	— Distomiasis	35	—
—	1	—	— Asphyxiated	33	—
—	5	—	— Emaciated	145	—
—	1	—	— Cœdematous and Nephritis	34	—
1	—	—	— Traumatic Pericarditis & Dropsy	530	—
—	—	—	1 Sarcoma and Dropsy	140	—
4	—	—	— Mastitis	—	74
2	5	—	— 1 Injuries	—	125
3	—	—	— Hepatic Abscess	—	120
—	1	—	— Unsound	—	8
			Fluky and Diseased Livers and other organs, etc., and Bruised Meat	—	2632
				1773	5862
Total weight in lbs. Condemned, 7,635.					

In addition, 40 lbs. Tasmanian Apples, 72 lbs. Kelsel Plums, 2 lbs. Bacon and 15 lbs. Tomatoes, etc., were condemned and destroyed.

FOOD INSPECTION.

A sharp outlook was maintained over the various articles of food offered for sale for human consumption and places where food is prepared were kept under observation.

It was not necessary to institute any legal proceedings.

There have been no cases of food poisoning reported during the year.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION ACT, 1928.

Twenty-two samples of cows' milk were purchased by the Inspectors, submitted for analysis, and found to be genuine upon examination.

Several informal samples of cows' milk were submitted to the sediment test for dirt, the results were satisfactory.

We have not taken any action during the year in respect of Condensed Milk Regulations, 1923 ; Dried Milk Regulations, 1923 ; or the Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912-1917.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

There were no samples submitted during the year.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 124 Bakehouses and on the whole they are in a satisfactory condition.

TRIPERIES, ETC.

Two tripe dressing firms occupy premises in the Corporation buildings adjacent to the Pig Abattoir in James Street West. The work is carried out efficiently, the greatest possible care is exercised to avoid effluvia nuisances. The waste material is burnt. One gut scraper carries out the preliminary part of his work in separate premises situated at the Public Abattoirs. The casings are sent out of town to be scraped, etc. There was no cause for complaint during the year.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

The various millowners, farmers, etc., now exercise constant vigilance and a great many more cats are being kept. During the year poisoned bait was placed in selected and suitable places known to be infested, with satisfactory results. In some infested buildings the drains were found to be faulty, giving rodents access to the buildings. These were remedied as soon as possible.

RIVER AND STREAMS.

The river and streams are inspected periodically. During the year vast quantities of debris were cleared from the bed of the river by Corporation workmen.

OPEN SPACES.

The Borough Engineer has supplied the following particulars :—

Public Parks—

Whitehall	16.25	acres.
Bold Venture	18.5	„
Sunnyhurst	49.5	„
	<u>84.25</u>	<u>„</u>

Corporation Recreation Grounds—

Blacksnape	35.25	acres.
Olive Lane	1.57	„
Everton Street	0.853	„
Rosehill	13.513	„
Cross Street	0.65	„
	<u>51.836</u>	<u>„</u>

Allotments—

Rented	7.0	acres.
Held for other purposes but used as allotments...	5.0	„
Let by private owners	12.0	„
	<u>24.0</u>	<u>„</u>

In addition to the above there are the Moors which are traversed by public footpaths in all directions.

Open spaces are of great importance.

The children use the Recreation Grounds and whilst there are free from the dangers of the roadways.

OTHER MATTERS.

At each monthly meeting of the Health Committee, in addition to the printed report, detailed typewritten statements have been submitted respecting work done during the period under review.

INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

Many inspections of the Elementary Schools were made particularly during vacations, viz., Easter, Mid-Summer and Christmas, to survey the buildings and ascertain if the cleaning had been done in accordance with your requirements, as issued prior to each vacation by Mr. Bretherick, Secretary of Education. On the whole the cleaning was efficiently done. Defects in buildings, means of ventilation, drainage, and pavement of yards were referred to the Education Secretary for attention.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

There were 107 notified cases, 38 of which were Pneumonia and 37 were Scarlet Fever. These cases were scattered throughout the Borough. No definite source of infection was discovered. Only 14 cases of Diphtheria were notified.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING THE YEARS 1928-1932.

YEAR	Diphtheria and Group. Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Tuber- culosis.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Measles & German Measles.	Pneum'nia	Malaria.	Cerebro- Spinal Fever.	Polioye- ritis.	Encephalitis Epidemica.	Total.
1928	... 2 11	19	1	4	4	29	1	...	92	...	...	...	4	167
1929	... 46 11	54	...	4	8	26	8	...	72	...	...	...	3	232
1930	... 98 13	102	...	3	11	24	3	...	67	...	...	...	...	321
1931	... 52 8	54	1	1	4	22	3	...	36	...	...	...	1	182
1932	... 14 8	37	...	3	4	14	2	...	38	...	...	...	1	121

Under the Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order of 1910, a supply of Anti-toxin is kept at the Health Office and the Police Station, and the total amount supplied free of charge to local practitioners and used in the Infectious Diseases Hospital during 1932 was 1,295,500 units. The Anti-toxin is promptly used.

There was one case of Encephalitis Lethargica reported during the year. This patient was not removed to hospital but died at home. The house, etc., was thoroughly disinfected.

We had no "return" cases of Scarlet Fever.

It has been general to discharge all uncomplicated cases of Scarlet Fever from this hospital on the 28th to the 30th day. If the accommodation is suitable, attention adequate, and the people desire the case to remain at home, we allow this, and maintain general supervision.

We have not adopted any new methods for the selection of individual cases for admission to hospital.

Cases of Measles or Whooping Cough, if complicated by Pneumonia, are now admitted to Bull Hill Hospital, if accommodation permits.

Contacts are kept under observation after removal of patients and disinfection of houses. Any suspicious carrier cases are examined in the usual way, bacteriologically and clinically, and dealt with accordingly.

No use has been made of the tests known as the Schick and Dick Tests, in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively, or of the recently developed artificial methods of immunization against these diseases as I do not think it wise at present to push these tests.

No vaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the provisions of the Public Health (Smallpox) Regulations, 1917.

It has not been necessary to make any of the following diseases compulsorily notifiable—Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea (under 2 years), Chicken-pox, or any other disease.

Number of Special Reports made under Art. XIX. (15 and 16) Sanitary Officers' Order, 1910?—Nil.

No special inquiries have been undertaken in connection with epidemics from influenza, locally contracted anthrax or rabies.

Arrangements in this district are so completely carried out for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer at the Blackburn Royal Infirmary in their Radiological Department that no special efforts are required to be taken in this direction by the Local Authority.

No special enquiries relating to cancer have been conducted in consultation with the Departmental Committee on Cancer or otherwise.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

The number of houses disinfected during the year was 235. The Disinfecting medium used was either Sulphur or Formalin.

We have a modern steam disinfector situated at Shorey Bank, near the Electricity Works.

LIST OF ARTICLES DISINFECTED DURING 1932.

Beds	Mattresses	Bolsters	Pillows	Quilts	Blankets	Sheets	Suits of Clothes	Curtains	Cushions	Shawls	Coats	Sundries
114	3	51	175	40	190	18	63	1	4	2	6	59

Total articles Disinfected, 726.

Arrangements have been made for bathing verminous, etc., persons if occasion arises.

Prior to Rat Week in November, farmers, occupiers of mills, workshops, and food stores were circularised, and advised what action should be taken to rid their premises of rodents. On the whole the results were satisfactory. Action has been taken during the year in many instances where houses have been reported to be infested with cockroaches, fleas, bugs, etc.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Number of cases of infectious disease notified (other than Tuberculosis), number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to hospital, and deaths in hospital during the year 1932—

DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED.												Total Deaths	Hospital.		
	Total Cases at all Ages.	YEARS.												Total Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district.	
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65				
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	37	...	2	3	3	...	1	17	7	1	3	...	...	35	...
Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup	14	...	1	2	1	4	3	2	1	...	...	...	1	12	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	4	2	10	5	9	2	12	19
Acute Influenza Pneumonia	38	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	3	19	6
Puerperal Fever	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	1	3	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	3	3	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
*Encephalitis Lethargica	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	6	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	6	...	...	3	3	...
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other diseases notifiable in district, e.g. :—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles (excluding German Measles)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
Any other disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals...	107	2	3	3	5	1	11	24	9	20	11	16	2	18	75	8

See Page 53.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

When cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum are notified the Health Visitors call and see that the treatment as advised by the doctors is carried out. After home or hospital treatment is completed these cases attend at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres for observation by the Medical Officer of Health.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Number Notified	CASES.		Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
2	2	0	2	0	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years								
0—1...
1—5...	1	...	...	1	...
5—10	1	...	...
10—15	1	...	1	...	...	...
15—20	1	...	...	...	...	...
20—25	2	1	...	1	4	...
25—35	2	1	...	3	2	...
35—45	1	1	...
45—55	1	...	...	1	...	...
55—65	2	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards
.....
Totals	...	11	3	13	6	7	2	2

Specify the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths—Two to fifteen.

Cases are fairly efficiently notified. No action has been taken.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence, or mortality from tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

Thirteen cases of Tuberculosis were sent to various sanatoria and hospitals for surgical cases. Four of these were discharged before the end of the year and three cases died whilst in the Institution.

The Examination of Sputum on Discharge was positive in three cases, and in one case there was no examination result.

The Consumptive Patients from Darwen were sent to the following Institutions :—

3	Patients to	Burnley
5	,,	Withnell.
1	Patient to	Wolstenholme.
1	,,	Chadderton, Royton.
1	,,	Meathop.
1	,,	Halifax.
1	,,	Heath Charnock.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

There has been no action necessary under these regulations.

The County Consultant Tuberculosis Officer and the County Tuberculosis Nurse work in close harmony with the Darwen Health Department. The nurse visits the office frequently and affords us excellent information regarding housing conditions which she meets in her work. We on our part assist in every way with regard to disinfection, etc. This mutual working is much appreciated by all concerned.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. SECTION 62.

We have had no occasion to take action in respect of Section No. 62.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN EACH WARD, AND FOR EACH MONTH OF THE YEAR 1932.

NOTABLE SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS.

During the year 1,400 galvanized dustbins with tight-fitting lids were substituted for ashes tubs. This procedure will be continued until the work is completed. Excepting in a very few instances the farms have now been reconditioned and shippon floors reconstructed, additional windows fixed and separate dairies provided.

CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE DISTRICT.

The whole of the bed of the River Darwen still needs pitching and arching over in the vicinity of dwelling houses and shops. This would prevent much rubbish being deposited in the river and obviate the emanations of steam and foul odours.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

I.—INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Number of Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	256	2	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)...	369	1	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	20	—	—
Total	645	3	—

II.—DEFECTS FOUND.

	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	No. of Prosecutions.
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—				
Want of cleanliness	7	7	—	—
Want of ventilation	4	4	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	25	25	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation—				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	9	9	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—

	Referred to H.M. Found.	Remedied.	Inspector.	No of Prosec- cutions.
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences (excluding offences re- lating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers Orders, 1921) ...	—	—	—	—
Total	45	45	—	—

III.—HOME WORK. Nil.

IV.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

	Number.
Textile Factories	55
Non-Textile Factories	189
Workshops	268
Workplaces	9
Total Workshops on Register	521

V.—OTHER MATTERS.

	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 133, 1901)	—
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 5, 1901)—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	5
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	4
Other	—
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) in use at the end of the year ...	3

Meteorology.

The Meteorological Observatory is at Bold Venture Park in Lat. $53^{\circ} 41' 25''$ N., and Lon. $2^{\circ} 28' 32''$ W., and is at an altitude of 728 feet above mean sea level.

Observations are taken twice daily at 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.

This station is connected with the Meteorological Office, and is called a Normal Climatological Station. A report, giving all details of readings, is sent each month to the Meteorological Office, London.

The total rainfall for the year was 1276.7 millimetres, or 50.18 inches being recorded on 221 days ; the average for the last twenty years being 56.13 inches. The greatest monthly fall was in October, 232.9 millimetres ; and the lowest in February, 4.9 millimetres. The greatest daily fall was 47.0 millimetres, on September 2nd.

The total sunshine registered on 270 days during the year was 1022.7 hours, the average for twenty years is 1138.7 hours. June registered the highest monthly total, 189.1 hours ; and November the lowest, 19.5 hours. The highest daily reading was 13.6 hours on June 15th.

The mean minimum temperature in shade was 41.2° , the average for the last twenty years is 40.7° . The lowest monthly mean was in February, 33.0° , and the lowest reading for the year 20.0° on March 20th.

The maximum wind velocities were on October 7th, 16th, 19th, November 26th, 27th, December 16th and 17th, when Westerly and South-Westerly and South winds were blowing at the rate of 38 miles per hour.

Eight observations of snow, 14 observations of hail, 11 observations of thunder, thunderstorm on 6 days, 17 observations of mist, 63 observations of ground frost, 1 observation of snow lying, 20 observations of fog, 31 observations of dew, 10 observations of lightning, 25 dry air, and 1 Lunar Halo. Eclipse of moon on 14th September, Solar Halo 1, sleet 3, light air 8.

MEAN METEOROLOGICAL READINGS FOR 1931 AND 1932.

INDEX.

	PAGE.
Ambulance Facilities	20
Area of Borough	5
Ashes Accommodation	34, 35
Bakehouses	51
Births	5, 7, 8, 9, 10
Blackburn and East Lancashire Royal Infirmary	17
Cancer	7
Census (1931) Extracts—Re Population, Housing, Etc.	6
Chemical Work	51
Clinics and Treatment Centres	20
Closet Accommodation	33, 34
Closet Conversions	34
Common Lodging Houses	38 39
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops	47, 48
Deaths	5, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14
Diphtheria	54
Diseases of Animals Acts (Tuberculosis Order) 1925	48
Disinfection and Disinfestation	55
District Nursing Association	15
Drainage and Sewerage	33
Encephalitis Epidemica	53
Factories and Workshops	60, 61

	PAGE.
Food Surrendered or Condemned	50, 51
Health Committee, Members of	4
Health Department Staff	4
Health Education	40, 41
Hospital Accommodation	17, 18, 19
Houses Let in Lodgings	40
Houses, Sufficiency of Supply of	44
,, Fitness of	45
,, Rent Books	46
,, Byelaws Relating to	46
,, Overcrowding	45
Housing, General Conditions	44
Housing Statistics	42, 43, 44
Illegitimate Births	9, 10
Inhabited Houses	5, 6
Infants attending Centres	27, 28
Infant Life Protection	32
Infantile Mortality	7, 26
Infectious Diseases	53, 54, 55, 56, 59
Inquests	11
Inspection of Public Buildings	39
Laboratory Work	15
Legislation in Force	16
Marriages	8
Maternal Mortality	7, 20
Maternity and Nursing Homes	24

	PAGE.
Maternity Homes and Midwives, Inspection of	23
Maternity and Child Welfare	27 to 32
Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	27
Medical Help Records	21, 22
Meat, Inspection of	48, 50
Meteorology	62, 63
Midwives	23
Midwives' Act, 1918	23
Milk, Free Grants of	31
Milk Supply	46
Notable Sanitary Improvements	60
Notification of Births	25
Number of Families	5, 6
Offensive Trades	39
Open Spaces	52
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	57
Orthopædic	19, 20
Population	5
Prevention of Blindness	56
Professional Nursing in Home	15
Public Cleansing	35, 36
Public Health Act, 1925	58
Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925	58
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	21
Rainfall	33, 62
Rateable Value of Borough	5

	PAGE.
Rag Flocks Act	39
Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919	51
River and Streams	33, 52
Sale of Food and Drugs Acts	51
Sanatorium Treatment	58
Sanitary Requirements	60
Sanitary Inspection of Area	32, 33, 36, 37, 38
Scarlet Fever	53, 54
Schools	40, 53
School Clinic	20
Schools, Closure of	40
Slaughterhouses	49
Smoke Abatement	38
Supply of Anti-toxin	53
Tents, Vans and Sheds	39
Tuberculosis	7, 57, 58
Tuberculosis Dispensary	20
Unhealthy Areas	45
Underground Sleeping Rooms	40
Vaccination	24
Water, Amount used	32
Water Supply	32
Workshops and Workplaces	40
Zymotic Death Rate	14

